

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02

OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 IO-11 IGA-02

AF-06 /115 W

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P R 072130Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8444

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 0049

DEPT PLS PASS TO US INTERESTS SECTION BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CA, EG, SA, IZ, IS

SUBJ: EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER MACEACHEN'S JANUARY
VISIT TO MIDDLE EAST

REF: OTTAWA 2713

1. SUMMARY. MINEXTAFF MACEACHEN VISIT TO MIDDLE EAST IN
JANUARY WILL BE PRIMARILY FOR "FAMILIARIZATION" WITH FOCUS
ON BILATERAL ISSUES, NOTABLY IN ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL AREA.
CANADIANS' AID PROMISES WILL BE RELATIVELY MINOR ELEMENT
OF WHAT APPEARS TO BE RATHER LOW-KEY VISIT. END SUMMARY.

2. DERY, DEP. DIR. MIDDLE EASTERN DIV., EXTAFF, GAVE
EMBOFF FOLLOWING INFO RE COMING MACEACHEN VISIT TO
MIDDLE EAST.

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3. MACEACHEN WILL LEAVE OTTAWA NIGHT OF JANUARY 9, FLYING TO ZURICH FOR WEEKEND OF PREPARATIONS WITH CLOSE AIDES. HE WILL BE IN CARIO JANUARY 11 THRU 13; BIYAD JANUARY 13 THRU 15; AQUABA JANUARY 15 THRU 17; BAGHDAD JANUARY 17 THRU 18; AND TEL AVIV ARRIVING JANUARY 18. WE NOT SURE HOW LONG HE WILL VISIT TEL AVIV BUT, ACCORDING TO DERY, HE WILL REMAIN IN EUROPE (PROBABLY ATHENS OR ROME) UNTIL THE CIEC MEETING IN PARIS ON THE 26TH.

4. BASIC PURPOSE OF VISIT IS "FAMILIARIZATION", ACCORDING TO DERY. THIS WILL BE FIRST CANADIAN EXTAFF MIN VISIT TO THE AREA SINCE 1969 AND FIRST SUCH FOR MACEACHEN. WHEN PLO ATTENDANCE AND RESULTING PRESSURES CAUSED CANADA TO BACK OUT OF HOSTING THE UN CRIME PREVENTION CONGRESS IN TORONTO LAST SEPTMBER (REFTEL, MACEACHEN PLEDGED TO VISIT MIDDLE EAST; THIS APPARENTLY HIS FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE GOOD ON THAT PLEDGE. DERY ADDED THAT MACEACHEN AND PARTY DO NOT EXPECT TO MEET PLO REPS. ALONG THE WAY AND DO NOT ANTICIPATE ANY FORSTINESS DUE TO CANCELLATION OF THE TORONTO CONFERENCE.

5. EXTAFF OFFICIALS ANTICIPATE THAT MACEACHEN WILL RECEIVE CORRECT AND COURTEOUS RATHER THAN DEMONSTRABLY FRIENDLY RECEPTION AT EACH STOP. DISCUSSIONS WILL FOCUS ON BILATERAL ISSUES WITH EMPHASIS PROBABLY ON ECONOMICS, PARTICULARLY HOST COUNTRIES' DESIRES FOR COMMERCIAL ARRANGEMENTS FEATURING CANADIAN TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGERIAL SKILLS. CANADIANS HAVE NOT GIVEN AID TO MIDDLE EAST IN THE PAST AND THEIR NEW AID STRATEGY, ANNOUNCED LAST SEPTEMBER, IS TARGETED LARGELY AT THE POOREST COUNTRIES, MAINLY IN AFRICA. CANADIANS WILL NOT, THUS, BE EQUIPPED WITH MUCH AID LARGESSE. DERY MENTIONED, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT THEY WILL OFFER EGYPTIANS ONLY SOME ASSISTANCE WITHIN CONTEXT OF UNDP FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF CANAL.

6. DERY TOOK SPECIAL PAINS TO EMPHASIZE BILATERAL AND FAMILIARIZATION ASPECTS OF VISIT AND TO DOWNPLAY RELATIONSHIP OF THE TRIP TO MIDDLE EAST CRISIS. AT SAME TIME, HE EMPHASIZED THAT MACEACHEN PRIMARILY INTERESTED IN LISTENING
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TO WHATEVER HOSTS HAVE TO SAY.

7. SENIOR OFFICIALS IN PARTY WILL BE: ALLAN J. MACEACHEN, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS; H. BASIL ROBINSON, UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS; YVON BEAULNE, DIRECTOR GENERAL, BUREAU OF AFRICAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN AFFAIRS, EXTAFF; DWIGHT W. FULFORD, DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL, BUREAU OF ECONOMIC AND SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS, EXTAFF; JEAN-MARIE

DERY, DIRECTOR, MIDDLE EASTERN DIVISION, EXTAFF; WILLIAM
GUEST, DIRECTOR, ADVISORY GROUP, BILATERAL PROGRAMS
BRANCH, CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY;
M. THOMAS, DIRECTOR, PACIFIC, ASIA AND AFRICAN DIVISION,
INDUSTRY TRADE AND COMMERCE.
JOHNSON

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED.

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